This issue's "Akaki Tsuki" It's already a BIG HIT!

散りいそぐは華の運命
醜い姿をさらす前に
この手で摘み取ってやろう
The fate of a fallen flower. Before its ugliness is exposed, I'll pluck it with these hands

原作小説絶賛発売中!
「赤き月の廻るころ もう一人の花嫁候補」
(角川ビーンズ文庫刊)
岐川新
イラスト 凪かすみ

赤き月の廻るころ

CHAPTER 2. THE THREE SUCCESSOR CANDIDATES

原作 岐川新 (角川ビーンズ文庫刊)
KIGAWA ARATA

漫画 音中さわき
OTONAKA SAWAKI

キャラクター原案 凪かすみ

登場人物紹介

岐阜莉莉羽
歌舞伎の家「六木屋」の末娘。舞台から人ではないモノの「声」が聞こえる。

春輝
「六木屋」の跡子。莉羽の面倒をみている。

芦川流威
跡を争いの起きている「赤月屋」の三人の跡子のうちの「人」莉羽の夢に出てくる男にうりふたつ。

第一幕のあらすじ

弘舞伎の梨園「六木屋」の末娘・莉羽は姫日悪夢にうなされる。それはどこか懐かしさを感じる知らない男が目の前で死ぬ夢――。ある日、春輝と共に、跡を争いが起こる「赤月屋」と「六木屋」共演の歌舞伎を見に行き、夢に出てくる男そっくりな流威と出会う。流威は「赤月屋」の次期当主候補だったのだ。そんな矢先、父・岐阪国次が倒れ、病院へ。そこで父が倒れた原因を花束からの「声」によって知った莉羽。毎日見る悪夢と、父が倒れた原因、全て「赤月屋」に繋がっていると悟った莉羽は「赤月屋」へのりこもうと決心する――!!

HEY...
IS IT THIS PLACE?
A BIG ARTIFICIAL TREE...
WITH A PEONY FLOWER ...
SO
IT'S HERE LIKE I THOUGHT...
WHAT HAPPENED TO FATHER... WHAT I'VE BEEN SEEING IN MY DREAM EVERY NIGHT
ALL THE PUZZLES FIT HERE!
RIU-SAMA
leans
LET'S GO HOME, AFTER ALL.
IF WE GET CAUGHT SNEAKING AROUND HERE, IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME
KUREH...

THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO ENTER THE PREMISES!!
PER..
PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BAD IF ROKUGIYA'S DAUGHTER WAS CAUGHT SNEAKING AROUND, BUT..
I STILL WANT TO FIND OUT THE CROOK QUICKLY BEFORE WE GET CAUGHT
before father gets attacked again and it would be too late
WHAT'S GOING ON_?
AHH.
IT IS LIKELY THAT THEY ARE THE JAPANESE-STYLE DANCE STUDENTS, IS IT NOT?
AKATSUKIYA IS THE HEAD OF A JAPANESE-STYLE DANCE SCHOOL, SO_.
...
(SIGH)
LOOK AFTER ME TODAY, TOO.

SLIP AWAY☆
FREEZE
RI-RI-RI... RUI-SAMA
shhh
IF WE ACT NATURALLY, WE WON'T GET CAUGHT.
Kyaa
WAIT!! THE PERSON WHO JUST PASSED BY THERE IS...
gasp
ASHIKAWA RUI-SAMA ISN'T IT!?
!?
CR-

CRAP!
Hide!
I CAN'T PROVOKE HIM...
GOTTA BE ON GOOD BEHAVIOR...
HE.. DEFINITELY REMEMBERS ME..
WHAT SHOULD I DO? SUDDENLY RUNNING INTO HIM...!!
BUT SINCE I'VE BEEN HAVING THOSE DREAMS
I'M SURE IT'S...
AH...
UM RUI-SAMA, THIS.. I DON'T KNOW IF IT SUITS YOUR TASTE BUT...
THEN
I WILL EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE BY SPENDING TIME WITH YOU. JUST THE TWO OF US...
THIS...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN...

!?
KU-REHA!
LET'S GO LOOK IN THE GARDEN WE JUST SAW!!
O...OKAY.
Let's forget about that, bastard!
HOW SURPRISING
HE'S LIKE THAT WITH ANYONE!?
panicky
dizzy
Watch out!
Ye-yes!!
...

AH...
KUREHA, LOOK. IT'S THE SAME FLOWER AS THIS ONE!!
MAYBE THIS ONE WAS GROWN HERE, TOO!!
THIS...
IS A GREENHOUSE, HUH...
HOW IS IT?
DID YOU GET SOMETHING?
NO...
EVEN IF I ASK ANY OF THEM IF THEY'VE SEEN THE SAME CRIMINAL AS THIS ONE DID
THEY CAN'T DISTINCT A PERSON FROM ANOTHER, JUST LIKE HOW PEOPLE CAN'T DISTINCT BETWEEN 2 OF THE SAME ANIMAL BY THEIR FACES.
WE HAVE TO SEARCH WITHIN THE PREMISES AFTER ALL ...

HUH
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA SEARCH?
AH...
ASHI-KAWA RUI
!?

CA-CALM DOWN.
I HAVEN'T GIVEN AWAY MY IDENTITY YET.
WH-WHY IS HE HERE!?
UM...
UH...
HE KNOWS!!
Gotta be kidding me
EXACTLY IS ROKUGIYA'S DAUGHTER DOING SNIFFING AROUND HERE?
WH-
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING, I...
GULP...
WHAT I'M SAYING IS.. THE GUY YOU'RE WITH
ISN'T HE ROKUGIYA'S ACTORS' DISCIPLE?
LAST TIME, HE STAYED CLOSE TO YOUR BROTHERS.
I REMEMBER HE CAME TO OBSERVE THEM PRACTICING
Just recently we met by accident, right?

UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, I HAVE GOOD MEMORY...
open
RUI?
ARE YOU IN HERE?
!?
AND IF YOU'RE GONNA PLAY DUMB, THEN I HAVE A PLAN TOO...?
WHAT DO I DO? WHAT DO I SAY
WHAT'S MORE, HE'S
AH... WHO ARE THESE GUESTS?
A-ANOTHER PERSON!!
ha
AH, THANK GOD
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU!!

AFTER THE 10TH HEAD, ENJUURO DIED,
HE WAS CHOSEN AS THE SUBSTITUTE SUCCESSOR.
ASHI-KAWA CHIKA-MATSU !!
SMH
ALONG WITH OTHERS, ENJUURO, THE GREAT ACTOR, WENT AS FAR AS TO INSIST THAT "IN AKATSUKI THERE'S CHIKAMATSU"
IF THIS PERSON WAS TOLD WHO WE ARE
AHHH ...
THEY'RE ...
HE'S GONNA SPILL IT !!
NEW LIVE-IN EMPLOYEE APPLICANTS.
EH.
YES.. THAT MAY BE SO.
WE'RE.. CURRENTLY RECRUITING THEM, YES?
Smile
eyes open
HUH?

WHAAAAAT!?
SO THAT'S WHY THEY ASKED US, STARTING FROM TODAY!!
SUDDENLY
THEY SAY THEY'RE HAVING TROUBLE ABOUT FINDING A PLACE TO STAY.
NO, THE TRUTH IS, THESE SIBLINGS' PARENTS PASSED AWAY THE OTHER DAY...
SO
WELL, THAT IS...
WH-WHAT IS HE THINKING?
WAI-
AND
WHAT DID YOU NEED FROM ME?
AH. OHH
THAT'S RIGHT!! YOU HAVE GUESTS THAT HAVE JUST ARRIVED.
SMACK
CLUNK
BROTHERS !?
MY
ROKUGIYA'S ASAHISA-SAN AND TOKISATO-SAN...

FOR MY STUPID YOUNGER SISTER FOR TROUBLING YOU...
I SINCERELY APOLOGIZE
IF YOU SAY THAT, I FEEL TRULY AT EASE.
right, ru-san?
HOW'D THEY FIND OUT THAT I WAS HERE!?
Saw the scattered articles in Riu's room.
Just as I thought.
Calm down
RIU! KUREHA! HURRY UP AND GO HOME!
ru-san!
Four
I'M THE ONE THAT DOESN'T KNOW YOUR BLESSED SISTER'S TRUE COLORS
NO, NOT AT ALL.
AND SHE DIDN'T MAKE A RACKET OR ANYTHING, SO. .
AHH...
I CANNOT ALLOW THAT EITHER...

WHAT !?
THAT'S A LI-!
HE's the one who...
?
EXCUSE ME?
WELL, I TRIED TO STOP THEM BUT ...
THE TRUTH IS THAT THESE TWO SAID THAT THEY WANTED TO WORK HERE, AND WE HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED IT WITH THE SUBSTITUTE HEAD.
REALIZE
WAIT A SECOND !?
IF I CAN WORK HERE, IT'S MY CHANCE TO SEARCH INSIDE
RI-RIU...
DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY DID SOMETHING SO STUPID..
trembling
I'M SORRY, ONII-SAMA!
BUT THIS TIME
PLEASE LISTEN TO MY SELFISH-NESS!

W-WE MEET AGAIN.
FROM TODAY ON, I'LL BE IN YOUR CARE MY NAME IS RIU...
I...I LOOK FORWARD TO WORK WITH YOU...
changed
WHY IS IN THE CARETAKER'S POSITON!?
YES
GOOD WORK. I LOOK FORWARD TO IT, TOO.

stand
whatever
IF IT'S THIS PLACE, WE WON'T BE DISTURBED.
YOU SEEM DISCONTENT, EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE FINALLY DESIGNATED A SPOT.
open
I'M NOT...!!
bam
WHY?

TH-THAT'S..
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SAY IT, SHALL I TAKE A GUESS?
UH
MIND TELLING ME THE REASON WHY
YOU WERE SNEAKING AROUND AKATSUKIYA?

IT HAS A CONNECTION ABOUT YOUR DAD COLLAPSING?
!?
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
SIGH
SO IT WAS THAT.
LATELY, IT FEELS LIKE I'M CARRYING EVERYONE ON MY SHOULDERS.
YOUR DAD TOO.
HE SEEMS TO BE EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH ME...
AH...
THE 11TH HEAD SAID HE FITS THE SUCCESSOR THE MOST...
THAT MAY BE SO, BUT
WHY...
WELL,
I'M BEING THREATENED.
TH-
THEY WENT AS FAR AS TO THREATEN YOU!?

WAI- WHAT'RE YOU-!
slip
slip
THA-!
SHH ...
AN INJURY!?
THIS... WHAT HAPPENED?
IT CAN'T BE...

*Kabuki is Japanese theatrical drama
NO...?
IT WAS FROM THE MIDDLE OF STAGE PRACTICE.
WHEN I FACED THE STAGE...
?
IN KABUKI*
ALL MOVEMENTS ARE FINELY PLANNED
FROM THE HAND MOVEMENTS AND ANGLES
TO THE BODY'S DIRECTION
CRACK
AND OF COURSE, WHERE ONE STANDS.
THAT'S WHY, IF
SOMEONE WERE TO SET A TRAP...

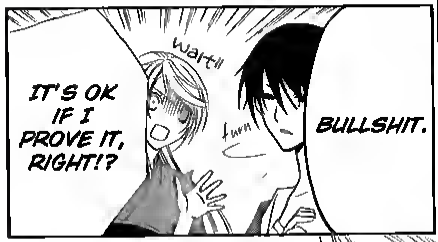
DEAD ...!?
IT WASN'T ONCE OR TWICE...
IF EITHER TIMES I WAS HIT WAS CRITICAL. THEN I'D BE DEAD...
THERE'S NO WAY AVOID IT!!
THAT ... IS THE INJURY FROM THAT TIME?
YEAH.
21
SO IT WAS LIKE MY DREAM ...
IT WAS TELLING ME THAT HE MAY BE KILLED.
IT SEEMS LIKE I'M IN THE WAY. NO MATTER WHAT TACTICS IT TAKES,
EVEN KILLING ME, IT SEEMS THAT THEY WANT ME TO PULL OUT.

IT'S LIKE SOME KIND OF WARNING...
EH?
EVEN SO, YOU
WHY ARE YOU SUSPICIOUS OF AKATSUKIYA?
JUST LIKE YOUR DAD.
DID YOU THINK THAT THE PEOPLE WHO WERE DRAGGED INTO THIS MESS WAS JUST A COINCIDENCE?
THERE'S ONLY PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T REALIZED IT TO THAT EXTENT.
23
WHAT, YOU REALIZED IT?
THA-...
I SHOULD EXPLAIN...
...
lift
!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO STAY SILENT,
THAT MEANS I CAN SAY IT AGAINST YOUR WILL?

IF THE SOCIETY WAS INFORMED, THEN I'M SURE IT WOULD BECOME THE GOSSIP...
ENTERED SOMEONE'S HOUSE WITHOUT PERMISSION AND CAME AS AN APPLICANT TO WORK ..
THEN, A GIRL WITH AN HONORABLE THEATRICAL FAMILY LINE HAS
sfx: slap
HE'S THREAT-ENING ME!?
....TCH!!
HE-
WHAT WILL YOU DO?
sfx: grab
EH
NO!
THE-
THE FLOWERS TOLD ME!!

It
Stand
IT'S THE TRUTH!!
...
IS THAT SOME KIND OF JOKE?

.....
...
FLOWERS?


Wait!!
IT'S OK IF I PROVE IT, RIGHT!?
Turn
BULLSHIT.

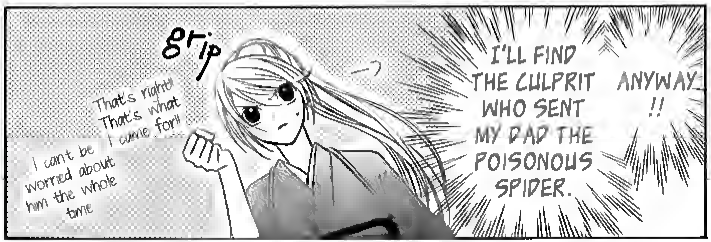
SINCE I'M IN THIS SITUATION, IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
PROVE IT...? HOW?
I'LL SHOW YOU RIGHT NOW. BE QUIET FOR A MINUTE.
THEN AGEMAKI'S SUKEROKU, CERTAINLY THE YOUNG ONE...
WHAT? IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE SUKEROKU SPEECH?
THE GYOUYOU PEONY FAMILY CREST AND—...
THE TOWN WITH A FRAGRANT OF SAKURA, HANAKAWADO'S SUKEROKU...

I DON'T KNOW THE "SUKEROKU" SPEECH.
WHEN THE FLOWERS SANG IT, I JUST REPEATED AFTER IT.
WHAT?
OVER AND OVER AGAIN... THAT'S HOW YOU MEMORIZED IT.
SINCE THE TIME I ARRIVED, YOU'VE BEEN READING THE SCRIPT, PRACTICING RIGHT?
...
YOU'RE AN UNEXPECTEDLY HARDWORKING PERSON...
25
TCH!
IT'S NOTHING.
I'M ALWAYS TOLD I'M DISGUSTING
NO BIG DEAL.
EH? HOW DID YOU KNOW, RIU-CHAN?
CUZ THE FLOWERS TOLD ME THAT
EW, YOU MAKE ME SICK. DON'T COME HERE!!
I SAID IT.
WHAT SHOULD I DO HERE? NOTHING IS HELPING ME.
TOTAL FAILURE AM I

THAT'S SOME SPECIAL SKILL YOU HAVE...
EH?
CU-CUZ... YOU BELIEVE ME?
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE...
USUALLY, WHEN PEOPLE SAY THAT AS A PRACTICAL JOKE FOR A LAUGH, BUT...
WHEN YOU SAY IT, IT SEEMS POSSIBLE AND I'VE BECOME INTERESTED.
J-JUST BY SUCH AN AMBIGUOUS REASON?
I'M SURPRISED, TOO.
BUT YOU...

THAT SURPRISED ME.
FOR SOMEONE OTHER THAN MY BROTHERS
...
It's about time to sleep.
WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO?
AREN'T THE TYPE TO LIE, RIGHT?
TO BELIEVE ME LIKE THIS.
IS PROBABLY A FIRST.
Shimp Shimp
GOOD MORNING
EVERYONE IS LOOKING BEAUTIFUL TODAY, TOO.
WHY ARE THOSE GIRLS MOVED BY HIS "KINDNESS"?

TH-
THAT'S NOT TRUE!!
AND KUREHA, THE WAY YOU'RE SPEAKING!
I'm your younger sister!
Ah, I'm sorry I forgot.
MY, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE NOT IN A VERY GOOD MOOD.


grip
That's right! That's what I came for!
I can't be worried about him the whole time
I'LL FIND THE CULPRIT WHO SENT MY DAD THE POISONOUS SPIDER.
ANYWAY...!!

FOR NOW,

FATHER'S MATTER IS CONNECTED TO RUI BEING THREATENED

IS WHAT IT IS

IN FOR A PENNY, IN FOR A POUND, I SAY...
I'VE ALSO BEEN ASKING AROUND.
Let's find the culprit, okay?
KUREHA...
I'M SORRY ABOUT DRAGGING YOU INTO THIS, BUT...
IT'S OKAY, I UNDERSTAND.

whoosh
THE CULPRIT BELIEVES THAT DISAPPROVES OF RUI AND THINKS HE'S IN THE WAY.
Next is the entrance.
THAT'S
ONE OF THE CANDIDATES.
THE FIRST ONES THAT COMES TO MIND
ARE THE OTHER TWO SUCCESSION CANDIDATES.
ASHIKAWA RUKI
HM?
blinks
AH.

Hmmm?
HEY. YOU'RE THE NEW GIRL, HUH
LET ME GUESS..
"RIU"-SAN?
EH?
Y-YES THAT'S RIGHT, BUT
how'd you know?
I was right ♪
Rui-niisan being a caretake is a first.
You've been the gossip lately
EH
Hmm Hmm
I was interested in what type of person you were too
Yeah The person Niisan is taking care of is cute
BUT.
EVEN IF I SAY THAT THE CANDIDATES ARE SUSPICIOUS
THIS INNOCENCE
MAKES IT HARDER TO BELIEVE, MAYBE?
consent!
Th-thanks
RUKI?
Open

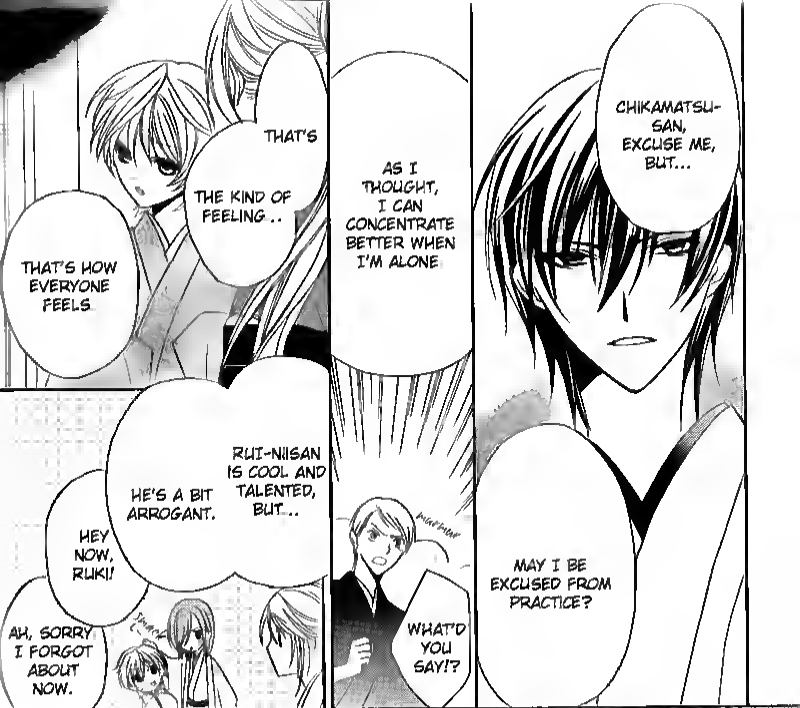
PRACTICE STARTED IN THE BANQUET HALL...
AREN'T YOU GOING?
WHOA...
Shizuru-niisan!!
ASHIKAWA SHIZURU
HE IS THE THIRD CANDIDATE.
SINCE HE FELL ILL, HE HASN'T BEEN ON STAGE, BUT
HE STILL HAS MANY FANS BEING A YOUNG ACTOR WITH BEAUTY AND TALENT
Niisan!! Is it okay for you to be up today!?
YEAH, MY CONDITION IS PRETTY GOOD..
LIKE THIS, THE DAY I'M ABLE TO MAKE A COMEBACK SHOULD BE SOON.

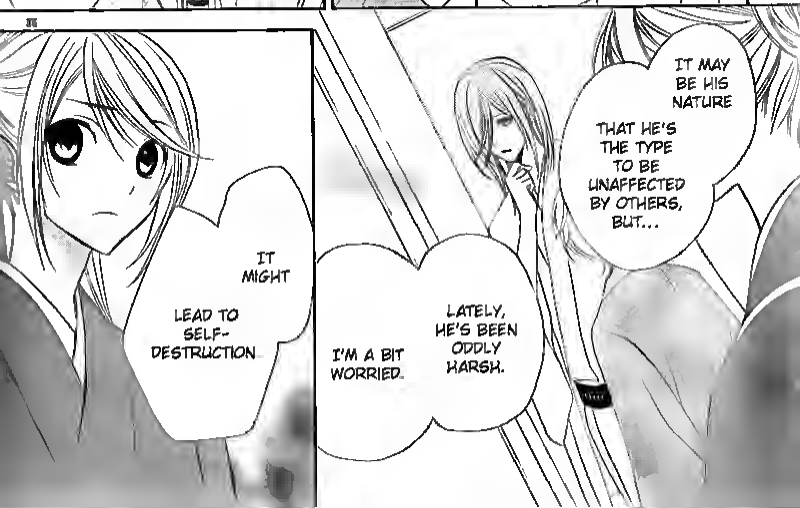
IS WHAT I DON'T WANNA THINK ABOUT BUT ...
stare...
warm glow
THIS KIND OF NICE PERSON IS THE CULPRIT...
Really? Yay!
smile
YOU MUST BE RIU. GOOD MORNING.
DID YOU SLEEP WELL LAST NIGHT?
thump
!!
Y-YES. THANKS TO YOU"!!
IS THAT SO? THEN LET'S GO TOGETHER.
I'LL SHOW YOU THE WAY.
EH.. THAT'S ...
This way is closer
"polite answer when asked "How are you" etc
HMM?
ARE WE INTERRUPTING YOUR WORK BY CHANCE?
NOT AT ALL.
I WAS JUST GOING TO BRING THIS TO THE BANQUET HALL.

THIS...
O...
OKAY.
THIS IS..
FEEL-
ING ..
chuckles
YOU'RE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE PREMISES, RIGHT?
DON'T HOLD BACK AND JUST COME WITH ME.
83
LIKE I'M MISTAKING THEM FOR DISTRUSTFUL PEOPLE...
STOP.
AGAIN FROM THERE.

RUI IS
WE-WE'RE SORRY...
SOMETHING I WARNED YOU YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
THAT IS...
YES!
VERY GOOD!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
AS EXPECTED FROM YOU.

TCH
SHIT.
AH.
GLOOMY SINCE MORNING . . .
NUZZLE
NUZZLE
HOW SORRY
W-WHY IS IT LIKE THIS?
WELL, THERE'S NO HELPING IT.
IT'S BECAUSE RUI-NIISAN IS A SPECIAL EXCEPTION
THEY ARE STUDENT-ACTORS FOR 10 YEARS HERE, YOU KNOW?
BUT RUI-NIISAN'S ONLY BEEN HERE FOR 3 YEARS.
IT WAS SAID THAT THE PREVIOUS HEAD BROUGHT HIM ALONG AND GAVE HIM UNINTERRUPTED SUPERVISED PRACTICE.
LIKE THAT, BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, HE'S ADOPTED.
ON STAGE, HE'S THE LEADING ACTOR. SINCE HE'S A SUCCESSOR CANDIDATE,
HE WAS GIVEN A HIGH POSITION.
SO IT WAS LIKE THAT..


CHIKAMATSU-SAN, EXCUSE ME, BUT...
MAY I BE EXCUSED FROM PRACTICE?
WHAT'D YOU SAY!?
AS I THOUGHT, I CAN CONCENTRATE BETTER WHEN I'M ALONE.
THAT'S THE KIND OF FEELING..
THAT'S HOW EVERYONE FEELS.
RUI-NIISAN IS COOL AND TALENTED, BUT...
HE'S A BIT ARROGANT.
HEY NOW, RUKI!
AH, SORRY I FORGOT ABOUT NOW.


IT MAY BE HIS NATURE THAT HE'S THE TYPE TO BE UNAFFECTED BY OTHERS, BUT...
LATELY, HE'S BEEN ODDLY HARSH.
I'M A BIT WORRIED.
IT MIGHT LEAD TO SELF-DESTRUCTION.

RUI ...!!
...WHERE'S THE "-SAMA"?
SA.. MA!
THAT'S UNIMPORTANT!!
WHAT WAS THAT EARLIER?
IT'S LIKE YOU SAID THAT TO PURPOSELY MAKE THEM ANGRY.
KNOWING YOU, YOU COULD HAVE SAID IT MORE SMOOTHLY.
chuckle
EH?
ARE YOU THAT WORRIED ABOUT ME?
HOWEVER THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
QUICKLY RETURN TO YOUR JOB.
HEY!

WORRIES, THEY LOSE.
TO THINK THAT HIS WORDS MADE ME HAPPY.
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE!?
WHEN SOMEONE FINALLY...
UGH. FORGET HIM!
EH?
bwoosh
SSSSSS

EH?
AGAIN!?
RUN
DON'T TELL ME THIS IS
IS THIS SOME KIND OF WARNING !?
RUI?

snap
lean
I FEEL THAT SOMETHING BAD IS GONNA HAPPEN...
RUI !?
WATCH OUT!
Who's after Rui's life!?

Kawaii Corner
presents
Akaki tsuki no mawaru koro

Ch.02

Scanner: Auu
Translator: kurokami
Editor: i-Yuuki
Qc-er: i-Yume

visit us at:
kawaii-corner.livejournal.com
crunchyroll.com/group/kawaii corner

visit us at
kawaii_corner.livejournal.com
www.crunchyroll.com/group/Kawaii_Corner

TRANSLATORS WANTED!

WE NEED JAPANESE TRANSLATORS.

PLS JOIN US!

e-mail
Kawaii_Corner@hotmail.ca